

## A BAD BRITISH REVERSE.

Lord Methuen Wounded and a Prisoner in the Hands of Gen. Delarey.

### A FORCE OF TWELVE HUNDRED ROUTED.

Maj. Paris, With Nine Hundred Mounted Men and Three Hundred Infantry, Going to Meet Gen. Delarey, Successfully Attacked — Lord Methuen's Report.

London, March 10, 4:33 p. m.—Gen. Methuen and four guns have been captured by Gen. Delarey. Gen. Methuen was wounded in the thigh.

Three British officers and 38 men were killed. Five British officers and 72 men were wounded. One British officer and 200 men are missing.

The fight in which Gen. Methuen was captured occurred before dawn, March 7, between Winburg and Lichtenburg, Orange River Colony. The British force numbered 1,200 men. The Boers captured all the British baggage. Gen. Methuen is retained as a prisoner.

### LORD METHUEN'S REPORT.

He is Again Compelled to Send Requests for Heavy Losses.

London, March 11.—The text of Lord Methuen's dispatch announcing the capture of Gen. Methuen is as follows:

"Pretoria, Saturday, March 8.—I greatly regret to have to send you news of Methuen. He was moving with 900 mounted men, under Maj. Paris and 300 infantry, four guns and a pom-pom, from Wynburg to Lichtenburg, and was to meet Gen. Delarey, with 1,300 mounted men, at Roivainsfontein to-day.

Yesterday morning early he was attacked by Delarey's force, between Twe-Bosch and Palmietkloof. The Boers charged on three sides.

"Five hundred and fifty men have come in at Maribos and Kraaipan. They were pursued by the Boers four miles from the scene of action. They report that Methuen and Paris, with the guns, baggage, etc., were captured by the Boers. Methuen, when last seen, was a prisoner. I have no details of the casualties, and suggest this sudden revival of activity of Gen. Delarey is to draw off troops pressing De Wet."

In a second dispatch dated Sunday, March 9, Lord Methuen says:

"Paris has come in at Kraaipan, with the remainder of the men. He reports that the column was moving in two parties. One, with the ox-wagons, left Twe-Bosch at 3 a. m. The other, with the mule wagons, started an hour later. Just before dawn the Boers attacked. Before reinforcements could reach them the rear guard broke. In the meantime a large number of Boers galloped up on both flanks. These, at first, were checked by the flank parties, but the panic and stampede of the mules had begun and all the mule wagons, with a terrible mixture of mounted men, rushed past the ox wagons. All efforts to check them were unavailable. Maj. Paris collected 40 men, and occupied a position a mile in front of the ox wagons, which were then halted. After a gallant but useless defense, the enemy rushed in to the ox wagons, and Methuen was wounded in the thigh. Paris, being surrounded, surrendered at 10 a. m. Methuen is still in the Boer camp."

Then follows the numbers of the casualties, as already cabled. The killed include Lieutenants G. R. Vening and T. P. W. Nesham, of the royal artillery, who were both killed while serving their guns with case shot.

As Lord Methuen announced that Maj. Paris had surrendered and also telegraphed that he had reached Kraaipan with the remainder of the men, it may be inferred that the Boers subsequently released the major and his companions.

Paul Sanford Methuen, third Baron Methuen, became a lieutenant in the Scots Guards in 1864, was on special service on the Gold coast in 1873, served in the Ashanti war, 1874, was assistant military secretary to the commander-in-chief in Ireland in 1877, military attaché at Berlin in 1877-81, assistant adjutant general and assistant quartermaster for the Home district in 1881-84, served in the Egyptian war, taking part in the fighting at Kassassin and Tel-El-Kebir, commanded Methuen's horse and a field force in Bechuanaland, in 1884-85, was promoted major general in 1890, was in command of the Home district in 1892-97, has commanded the first division of the First army corps, as lieutenant general, since 1899.

He has been frequently decorated and mentioned in dispatches for bravery.

Gen. Methuen commanded the column sent to relieve Kimberley, in the latter part of 1898, and while on that service fought the Boers at Belmont, Gras Pan, the Modder river and Magersfontein. At the battle of Gras Pan the Boers were under the command of Gen. Delarey, who is Gen. Methuen's captor now. After these engagements Gen. Lord Roberts was sent to South Africa, where he took personal command of the British advance on Kimberley and relieved Kimberley February 16, 1900.

After Gen. Methuen's defeat at Magersfontein it was reported that he had shown signs of breaking down almost immediately after he took command of his division, and Gen. Wolseley, who was then commander-in-chief of the British forces, is said to have suggested to the war office, after the battle of Belmont, that Methuen should be relieved, but his advice was not heeded. Gen. Methuen sent a number of remarkable messages to the war office, one of which contained just three words: "Darkness after dawn."

His handling of the troops aroused the most violent criticism, which was only stilling by the relief of Kimberley, when the question of his health and ability seemed to be dropped. Since that time Gen. Methuen has rendered efficient service, and several notable successes over the Boers stand to his credit.

### FURTHER PARTICULARS.

British Troops Helpless in the Hands of the Willy Boers.

London, March 11.—Delarey, who has proved himself the most able of all the Boer generals, has, within a fortnight, gained a second decisive victory.

His first victory was the capture of Von Donop's convoy, when the British casualties in killed, wounded and men made prisoners totalled 632, and he has now added to his laurels by the capture, for the first time throughout the campaign of a prominent British general and by inflicting what is generally admitted to be one of the worst reverses the British have suffered throughout the whole war.

It is supposed that Lord Methuen was marching with the intention to avenge the capture of the Von Donop convoy.

The newspaper correspondents in South Africa have not yet been allowed to describe the affair. The only additional details available are contained in a further dispatch from Lord Methuen, which Mr. Brodrick, the secretary for war, read just as parliament was adjourning. This dispatch shows that the first confusion was caused by native boys with led horses, who galloped through the mule convoy as the latter was endeavoring, by Lord Methuen's directions, to close on the ox convoy. The disorder among the mules communicated itself to the mounted troops, and the Boers, dressed in khaki and riding alongside the wagons, frustrated all the attempts of the British officers to rally their forces. Great confusion ensued among this portion of the mounted troops, they and the mule wagons galloping three miles beyond the ox wagons, where they were cut off.

Sections of the Fourth and Thirtieth batteries of artillery fought with great gallantry, and 300 men, composed of the Northumberland fusiliers and the Lancashires, showed conspicuous courage in protecting the wagons and refusing to surrender until resistance was useless.

The force under Gen. Delarey was almost entirely dressed in British uniforms. This made it impossible for the infantry to distinguish between their own men and the enemy when the mounted troops were driven on them. The enemy numbered 1,300 men. They had one 15-pounder and a pom-pom.

Delarey, Celliers, Kemp, Verrazo, Tromp and other commandants were present.

Gen. Methuen was seen by an agent of the intelligence department. He was being well cared for in his own wagon.

In a private telegram just received here Lord Methuen adds:

"I find Methuen has a fractured thigh, but he is reported to be doing well."

In another message Lord Methuen says the wounded will be brought in to the railroad to-day, and adds: "I hope the reinforcements now arriving will rectify the situation in this area without disturbing operations elsewhere."

The feeling of depression in the lobbies of the house of commons over the news of the disaster in South Africa was very marked. The service members of the house expressed the opinion that it will necessitate sending fresh troops to the front, while the belief was widely expressed that the Boers will not fail to take advantage of Gen. Methuen's prominence to hold him as a hostage for the safety of Commandant Krizinger and other Boer leaders now in the hands of the British.

### GERMANY AND VENEZUELA.

The Question in Dispute Between Them Nearing a Settlement.

Berlin, March 11.—The dispute between Germany and Venezuela is nearing a settlement. The terms of this settlement are as yet a foreign office secret. They are, however, satisfactory to Germany, and Venezuela has apparently yielded without Germany's having made any direct threat or having had to do anything like sending an ultimatum. It is believed that, as a last condition prior to his acceptance of Germany's requests, the president of Venezuela, Gen. Castro, said he could not submit easily to these requests while a German fleet was anchored in his principal harbor. Consequently, the German squadron at La Guayra is now dispersing. The flagship of the squadron, the cruiser Vineta, has been ordered to the coasts of Colombia, Costa Rica and Nicaragua, the cruiser Falke will ascend the Amazon, and the only vessel to remain at La Guayra will be the little cruiser Gazelle.

### THE ETRURIA AT HORTA.

The Disabled Cunard Liner Towed Into Port in the Azores By Steamer William Cliff.

Horta, Azores, March 9.—The Cunard line steamer Etruria is now entering this harbor.

The Etruria anchored here at six o'clock this (Sunday) morning. All on board are well.

She had a comparatively uneventful passage, except for the breakdowns, which occurred during the dinner hour of February 26. When this occurred the Etruria had only just finished speaking by wireless telegraph with the Cunard line steamer Umbria. After the accident was discovered the Etruria called the Umbria wirelessly for one hour, but without success. Upon examination it was found that the ship's propeller had broken off outside the tube, and that the rudder had been carried away by the propeller. The Etruria then sent up rockets, which were seen by the British steamer William Cliff. The latter bore down, and was alongside in 50 minutes after the accident. She stood by until daylight, when, after several attempts, she succeeded in passing a hawser aboard the Etruria. The tank steamer Ottawa arrived on the scene at this time. The William Cliff then attempted to tow the Etruria, while the Ottawa attempted to steer her. The hawser, however, snapped. The Ottawa stood by for two days, and then left for Fayal, bearing the second officer of the Etruria to report the disaster and obtain assistance.

In the meanwhile the crew of the Etruria had made every effort to rig a jury rudder. The first such rudder was carried away immediately an attempt was made to use it. After further efforts lasting for two days a second jury rudder was successfully adjusted and is still in position.

The passengers of the Etruria were satisfied they were in no danger, and they praise the conduct of the captain and crew of the vessel. After the accident the passengers amused themselves with the usual deck sports, and concerts were held in the first and second cabins. Only those who were anxious concerning business matter chafed at the unavoidable delay.

The Etruria reports having sighted the Italian mail steamer Sardegna, from Naples, February 26, for New York, last Wednesday, March 5. The Sardegna stood by, but finding she could be of no assistance, proceeded on her course.

The Etruria was hoping to communicate with the North German Lloyd steamer Kron Prinz Wilhelm, by wireless telegraph. But her mast wire broke in several places, and she was unable to repair it until the weather had improved, when it was too late.

After the accident the passage of the Cunard steamer was entirely uneventful, and there occurred nothing of interest beyond the daily runs of the vessel, which ranged from 60 to 100 knots.

The Etruria will wait here for the arrival of the Royal Mail Steamer Elbe, which left Southampton for Horta yesterday. The Elbe will carry the Etruria's passengers to England. The Etruria will then be towed home by the two tugs which are now on their way out from Liverpool for this purpose.

The passengers on the Etruria are looking longingly toward the shore and waiting for to-morrow morning, when they will be able to land and become acquainted with Horta and the island of Fayal.

### TO BE COURT-MARTIALED.

Serious Charges Against American Officers in the Philippines—Expressions of Sympathy.

Manila, March 10.—Col. James Forney, of the Marine corps, will preside at the court-martial to try Maj. Littleton, W. T. Waller and Lieut. John H. A. Day, of the marine corps, March 11 next, on the charge of executing natives of the islands of Samar without trial. The court-martial will be composed of army officers and officers of the marine corps. The charges specify that Maj. Waller and Lieut. Day killed three native stevedores on the streets of Bay, Island of Samar, without trial. These stevedores were among those who accompanied the disastrous expedition of Maj. Waller and a detachment of marines to the interior of Samar last December.

It is claimed these stevedores mutilated and proceeded to the foothills where they dug canoes (a variety of sweet potato) and that they later concealed and refused to turn them over to the Americans, saying that when the marines died of hunger they would have a good supply of arms and ammunition.

Sympathy is expressed for Maj. Waller who, at that time, was suffering from mental and physical strain. Lieut. Day apparently obeyed Maj. Waller's orders.

American Bankers in Mexico. Mexico City, March 10.—American activity in extending banking facilities here attracts notice. The new State Bank of Chiapas, a remote member of the federation on the Guatemalan border, has been opened for business with half a million dollars' capital.

The new Bank of Orizaba, with a paid-up capital of \$150,000, is also a new American institution, the stock being held here in this city. Orizaba is now an important industrial center, and has hitherto lacked banking accommodations.

### MISSOURI STATE NEWS.

A Bold Burglar at Springfield. Springfield has been at the mercy of a burglar, and several thousand dollars in money and jewels have been stolen. Bloodhounds were brought from Lamar, but they were unable to trail the man long enough for his capture. On several occasions he has returned watches to owners when informed they were highly prized for their history. At one house he phoned to the police before he left that he was there, but when they arrived no trace of him could be found. He always awakens his victims and tells them to direct him to the money and valuables, and never fails to apologize for his visit. The mayor of Springfield has offered a reward of \$200 for his capture.

### The Coming Wheat Crop.

Says the Missouri crop report for February: In a number of the southwestern counties, and also in the extreme southern counties of the southwest section, the thick coating of ice which covered the ground at the close of January remained unmelted during February, and in those districts it is feared that the wheat has been injured, but the extent of the injury, if any, can not yet be determined. Slight damage was also done in a few counties by alternate thawing and freezing during the last week of the month. In some districts what is reported in much better condition than it was at the close of January.

### Complaints He Can't Dance.

One of the grounds of complaint of Frederick Armstrong, of Poplar Bluff, who is suing James Stewart & Co. in Judge Tully's division of the circuit court, at St. Louis, for \$25,000 for the alleged breaking of his leg, is that he can not dance. Armstrong states that in July, 1899, he was employed by Stewart & Co., contractors, who were building a barrel and stave factory at Poplar Bluff, and that he was struck by a derrick and his left leg broken. After his leg got well he attended a dance, he said, and tried to dance. After dancing half a set he had to take a rest. He has not danced since, he said.

### A Penny and a Match.

A saleswoman dropped a penny on the floor in J. M. Cannon's dry goods store in Sedalia and lit a match to aid her in her search for the coin. A cotton batting was set on fire, and the flames spread, consuming \$100,000 worth of property.

### Drowned in Arkansas.

Harry Foster, formerly of St. Louis, a son of Prof. Charles M. Foster, assistant superintendent of the St. Louis city schools, was drowned in the Saline river near Warren, Ark., while trying to stop the break of a club of lumber logs.

### Prayer Meeting in Saloon.

From the influence of a revival meeting, which is in progress at Co-lad, with Rev. Yonbrough, of Neosho, in charge, a large crowd of Christian people gathered at a saloon and held a spirited prayer meeting.

### Lunatic Joined the Army.

L. W. Loomas, an insane patient in the asylum at St. Louis, escaped and enlisted in the United States army. He was returned to the asylum, where it was said he is crazy on the subject of war. He came from Linn county.

### Killed by a Street Car.

James McAuley, deaf and dumb, the five-year-old son of Mrs. Mary McAuley, No. 2335 Cass avenue, St. Louis, was killed by a street car while attempting to follow his mother across the street.

### Had Been Married 67 Years.

Herman Jacobson died in St. Louis, aged 90. Mr. and Mrs. Jacobson were St. Louis' oldest married couple, having been married 67 years. Six grandchildren acted as pallbearers.

### Charged With Bribery.

John H. Becker, deputy factory inspector of St. Louis, has been arrested on a charge of attempting to bribe the jury commissioner in the Kratz bribery case.

### Baptist Ministers Meet.

Western Missouri theological institute, comprising ministers and laymen from Baptist churches in the western half of the state, met at Trenton.

### Vaccinated in the Finger.

Dr. Henacker, of St. Louis, while vaccinating a patient, accidentally scratched his finger. The virus was effective, and the digit is terribly swollen.

### Death of Miss Florence Bland.

Miss Frances A. Bland, aged 25, daughter of the late Richard P. Bland, died at Summerville, S. C., a winter resort, 22 miles from Charleston.

### Child Burned to Death.

Heien, the four-year-old daughter of Noah Fogle, Kilwinning, Scotland county, was burned to death while playing with fire in the kitchen stove.

### "Snake" Kinney in Trouble.

Thomas E. ("Snake") Kinney, an "Indian" chief in St. Louis politics, is charged with assault to kill. Kinney shot Daniel Shea in a restaurant.

### Ran Over and Killed.

William C. Allen, of Toronto, Canada, was run over and killed by an Iron Mountain train at the Stein street crossing in St. Louis.

### Post Office Robbed.

Burglars entered the post office at Marcelene, and got away with about \$200. Packages of postage stamps and registered letters were left.

## ALARMING CONDITIONS.

Affairs in Southwestern Missouri and Northern Arkansas are Very Serious.

### ALL OWING TO LAST SEASON'S DROUGHT

Farmers Have No Money to Purchase Supplies and There is a Dearth of Seed Corn and Potatoes—Mortgages Have the Unfortunates at Their Mercy.

St. Louis, March 11.—According to accounts given by traveling men, and other arrivals from southwestern Missouri and northern Arkansas, the conditions in that section of the country are becoming alarming, on account of last season's drought. Farmers have no money with which to purchase supplies, and it is stated on good authority that unless something is done to relieve the situation a serious food famine may occur before next summer.

Everywhere there is a dearth of seed corn and potatoes, and even seed with which to plant spring truck gardens. Stock is suffering from lack of food in the drought-stricken district, and the little feed there is being held at such high prices as to be almost out of reach of the average farmer. Families in the rural districts are living on the plainest kinds of fare, and even the supply of this is running short.

The greatest sufferers are persons living at a distance from the railroads. Corn there is being held at \$1 per bushel, and wheat is selling at the same figure. In order to tide their families and stock over the winter, farmers in many instances have been obliged to mortgage their farms, and in such transactions a high rate of interest is being charged.

There is little or no work to be found, and farmers are leaving their homes for southern lumber camps, in order to earn sufficient money to keep their families alive. What causes the most alarm for the future is the lack of seed corn and potatoes, and the lack of money to purchase any. Indications are for a favorable season, but many will be unable to take advantage of it through lack of seed, and stock with which to work the farms.

The counties which are suffering most are Barry, Stone, Taney, Christian, Ozark, Douglas, Wright, Texas and Howell.

### THE DEMAND FOR POTATOES.

Dealers are Paying a Bonus of Ten Dollars a Car to Get the Tons Where Most Needed.

Chicago, March 11.—So great is the demand for shipping facilities that the potato dealers are paying the railroad companies a bonus of \$10 a car, says the Tribune. The dealers have had trouble all season in getting cars placed when and where they want them, and just now they are particularly desirous of quick action. The price for seed potatoes is advancing rapidly, and the dealers want to take advantage of the market before farmers raise the price still further.

Less than three weeks ago potato seed stock was selling at 85 cents at loading stations. Now the holders are asking \$1.25. The demand is from southern sections. While they raise good table potatoes in the south, they are compelled to come north each season for seed stock.

### SECRETARY LONG RESIGNS.

The Secretary of the Navy Tenders His Resignation and Mr. W. H. Moody Will Succeed Him.

Washington, March 11.—Secretary Long has handed his resignation as secretary of the navy to the president. It is to take effect May 1.

The portfolio was tendered to Congressman W. H. Moody, of Massachusetts, and he has accepted it.

Mr. Moody's selection for the post of secretary of the navy was the outcome of an interesting contest. There were no less than a half-dozen aspirants, but the struggle finally narrowed down to the two representatives in congress—Mr. Foss, of Illinois, chairman of the naval committee of the house, who had the energetic support of his western colleagues, and Mr. Moody, for whom Senator Lodge made the winning fight.

### Fatal Powder Works Explosion.

Des Moines, Ia., March 11.—In an explosion at the Mooser powder works, at Keokuk, Monday morning, two workmen were killed and three injured. Several buildings were wrecked.

### A BIG CAR-BUILDING PLANT.

The Louisville & Nashville to Have a Car-Building Plant at Pensacola, Fla.

Pensacola, Fla., March 11.—It is stated here that the Louisville & Nashville railroad will erect a car building plant in this city at an estimated cost of a half million dollars, and in which numerous skilled workmen will be employed. It is understood a large tract of land has been purchased by the road on which to locate the plant.

### THE NEW NAVAL SECRETARY.

The Successor of Secretary Long Holds an Impromptu Lecture in the House.

Washington, March 11.—The news that Representative Moody, of Massachusetts, had been offered and had accepted the navy portfolio reached the capitol shortly after noon yesterday, and Mr. Moody, who was on the floor of the house, was showered with hearty congratulations. For several minutes he held a regular levee in one of the side aisles on the republican side. Democratic members noticed the demonstration, and crossed over to join in the ovation, his congratulations from that quarter being fully as hearty and sincere as those from his own side of the house.

Mr. Moody began to rise to prominence during his first term in the house, when Speaker Reed selected him frequently to preside over the committee of the whole and predicted for him a brilliant legislative career. As a member of the appropriations committee he has since led several fights on the floor, notably in connection with the contest between the navy and geodetic survey over jurisdiction of deep sea surveys. He secured the adoption of a resolution on an appropriation bill raising Dewey to the rank of admiral.

### PHILIPPINE PRIAR LANDS.

Commission Named to Negotiate With the Pope For the Purchase of the Priar Lands.

St. Louis, S. D., March 11.—Rev. Thomas O'Gorman, Catholic bishop of South Dakota, has received notification of his appointment, by the president, as a member of the commission to negotiate with the pope for the purchase of the friar lands in the Philippines. Gov. Galt heads the commission, and Judge Smith, of the supreme court at Manila, is the other member. The commission will sail after Easter. Bishop O'Gorman says that if the negotiations are successful it will do more than any one thing to complete the pacification of the islands, as it will end the trouble between the tenants and friars. It is understood that the friars hold four or five hundred thousand acres of the best lands in the Philippines.

### TEN HUMAN LIVES LOST.

A Mother and Her Nine Children Perish in Their Burning Home at Matane, Quebec.

Matane, Que., March 11.—Fire, which originated in the kitchen of the residence of Arthur Bouchard, Sunday, caused the death of Mrs. Bouchard and nine children. The fire was discovered by a servant, who immediately gave an alarm. Mr. Bouchard jumped from an upper window, and was about to be followed by his wife, but she failed in her attempt, and perished, together with her nine children, six boys and three girls, the eldest being a boy of 14 years. Bouchard arose about five o'clock and lighted a fire in the kitchen and then retired again.

### RECOGNITION OF BRAVERY.

Frank Wyatt, a Panhandle Engineer, to Receive Medals and Cash Rewards.

Kokomo, Ind., March 11.—The city council has voted a gold medal to Frank Wyatt, a Panhandle railway engineer, for bravery. The local lodges of the orders of Odd Fellows and Red Men also voted medals and cash to him, although Wyatt is not a member of either order.

Wyatt left his engine at three natural gas explosions last week and carried four women out of burning buildings, rushing through a mass of flames. The women were Mrs. Ida Achey, Mrs. Elizabeth Phillips, Mrs. Mary Barrington, and Mrs. Mary Spurgeon. The two former died of their injuries, but the others may recover. Wyatt was himself badly burned in pulling one of the women from under a fallen chimney.

### VIGILANTES HEARD FROM.

Owners Warned Not to Lease Holdings to Buyers of Stolen Ore—Other Warnings.

Victor, Col., March 11.—Several property owners in this city and Cripple Creek yesterday received, through the mail, letters signed "Committee," warning them not to lease buildings to buyers of stolen ore.

Frank M. Woods, of the Gold Coin mine, a member of the executive committee of the Mine Owners' association, said yesterday that he did not know who sent the notices.

A number of assayers also received warnings yesterday which they declined to make public.

### He Was Not the Man Wanted.

Kansas City, Mo., March 11.—A man arrested here last week on suspicion that he was Bennett, the supposed murderer of Nora Fuller, at San Francisco, proved to be a well-known Kansas City character, and was discharged. Capt. Seymour, of San Francisco, arrived here Sunday night, on the strength of a message from Chief Hayes, and returned west Monday, declaring the suspect was not the man wanted. Chief Hayes, realizing soon after the arrest that a mistake had been made, failed to make the matter public.